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A NEW TANAGER FROM VENEZUELA.

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A study of a good series of specimens of the Orange-headed Tanager, *Thlypopsis sordida*, reveals that the birds of the middle Orinoco Valley are different from those inhabiting Brazil, eastern Ecuador and eastern Peru, and Bolivia.

Hellmayr (Cat. Birds Amer., pt. ix, 1936, p. 388) notes that birds "... from various parts of Brazil appear to be inseparable from a typical Bolivian series (of *sordida*). I am, however, not quite so certain that those from the Orinoco basin are exactly the same. The few specimens, mostly in rather worn plumage, that we have been able to examine are on an average smaller and less whitish in the middle of the abdomen, but their unsatisfactory condition makes them unfit for definite decision. At all events, Venezuelan birds are, however, not referable to *T. s. amazonum*." To these notes, I may add the testimony of additional specimens which fully corroborate the small size of these northern birds and also reveal a difference in the dorsal coloration. Brazilian birds (other than from the range of *chrysoptis*, of which *amazonum* is a synonym) agree with Bolivian birds and are, therefore, typical *sordida*. The Venezuelan form may be known as

***Thlypopsis sordida orinocensis*, subsp. nov.**

*Type:* U. S. Nat. Mus. 316,653, ad. ♂, collected at Isla Orocopiche, near Soledad, Orinoco River, Venezuela, December 1, 1929, by Ernest G. Holt.

*Characters.*—Similar to *T. s. sordida*, but with the upperparts purer gray, less olivaceous, the general tone deep grayish olive as opposed to dark citrine in the nominate form; and slightly smaller (wings in males, 67-68 mm. as opposed to 70-71 mm. in *sordida*).

*Range.*—The middle Orinoco Valley; Isla Orocopiche, Soledad, El Fraile, and Capuchin.

The range of the nominate form as now restricted is as follows: eastern Bolivia and northern Argentina, north and east through Matto Grosso to Goyáz, Minas Geraes, and Rio de Janeiro, to Ceará, Piauh, and Maranhão.

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The race *chrysopsis*, in which the males are much more grayish, less buffy, on the sides and breast than in either of the other two subspecies, is confined to eastern Peru and eastern Ecuador and upper Amazonia east to the Rio Madeira and the Rio Machados, in western Brazil. It therefore cuts off *orinocensis* from *sordida*, but a wide gap in the range still exists between these west Brazilian birds and their Venezuelan representatives.

*Specimens examined.*—*T. s. sordida*: Bolivia 4, Brazil (Matto Grosso and Bahia) 6; *T. s. orinocensis*—Venezuela 5; *T. s. chrysopsis*—Ecuador 4. For the loan of part of this comparative material, I am indebted to Mr. J. T. Zimmer of the American Museum of Natural History.